

The Indian Missionary Record

VOL. 2, NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 1939

Published Monthly



His Holiness Pope Pius XI. died at the Vatican City, Friday morning, February the 10th. Prayers are offered in all the Churches for the repose of his soul. He was buried in St. Peter's Basilica, on February 14th.

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

- Sun. Feb. 12—Sexagesima Sunday.
- Sun. Feb. 19—Quinquagesima Sunday.
- Wed. Feb. 22—Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent.
- Fri. Feb. 24—St. Matthias, Apostle.
- Sun. Feb. 26—First Sunday of Lent.

CALENDAR FOR MARCH

- Sun. Mar. 5—Second Sunday of Lent.
- Sun. Mar. 12—Third Sunday of Lent.
- Fri. Mar. 17—St. Patrick.
- Sun. Mar. 19—Fourth Sunday of Lent.
- Mon. Mar. 20—St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church.
- Sat. Mar. 25—The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- Sun. Mar. 26—Passion Sunday.

Note:—Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, time of fasting for all adults between 21 and 60 years of age, unless dispensation is obtained according to the laws of the Church.

Wednesdays and Fridays are days of Abstinence from all meats.

Mar. 1st, 3rd and 4th are Ember days, days of fast and abstinence.

KINEBIKONS

Chapter X.

Suzanna was now seventy-five years old. Her face was all wrinkled; her hair was grey; her whole person showed signs of old age. She was already thinking of her death.

Lucy, her grand daughter, was now fifteen; she was the picture of a healthy Indian maiden. Her hair was black; her eyes, sparkling with wit, shone in her copper-like face; her tall, slender form made her movements supple and graceful. Although her attractiveness moved more than one young man, no one dared to talk to her about it.

Lucy was still young; she went to class two hours a day; the rest of the time she spent at the kitchen or in the sewing room, where she acquired much experience as a seamstress. In the kitchen she was renowned as a cook.

But, before graduating from school, Lucy had to go through more trouble. Suzanna was failing. One day, in the fall, she visited some friends with Lucy. She caught cold which developed into pneumonia. Within three days she was at death's door. She was given the best of care by the nurse and the doctor but little hope was held for her recovery.

The Sister lost no time in preparing her for the fatal moment. She was not afraid. "If it is the will of God that I should die now, I am ready," she said. I heard her confession and administered the last Sacraments. She prayed with the Sister till she became delirious. In this state she began to sing her old Indian songs and cried for her medicine bag. Her former habits nearly got the best of her. But the Sister was there. She gave Suzanna the Crucifix. She clung to it saying "Lord, my Saviour, I love thee with all my heart." A few moments later she died with the word Jesus on her lips. Lucy saw her pass away.

Suzanna's remains were exposed at the parlor of the Institution. Nearly all the Indians came to pray for her. Her funeral took place two days later; the interment took place in the Catholic cemetery. After the burial, a few pagan Indians remained at her grave to perform some pagan rites. It is customary for them to take the last meal with the dead person here. This they did at this time. They ate the things which Teweigan liked and threw some in a fire for her. A few days later, some men came again to her grave bringing with them a gramophone. Teweigan liked music and they wanted her to hear the old pieces she liked so much.

Now that the grand-mother was dead, Lucy was all alone in this world. She did not know of any relatives. She felt all alone.

Two days after Suzanna's funeral, I was returning from a sick call. Passing by the cemetery, I noticed some decorations on Suzanna's tomb. I went to the grave and noticed a little bundle. Opening the bag, I found in it tobacco, matches and a clay pipe. These articles had been placed there by her pagan friends who thought she would need all these things on her journey to the happy hunting grounds.

M. Kalmes, O. M. I.

The Indian Missionary Record

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REV. G. L. LAVIOLETTE, O.M.I., Editor.

ED. LAFLEUR, Associate Editor.

Cum permissu superiorum.

VOL. 2, NO. 2 - - - FEBRUARY, 1939

EDITORIAL

OUR BOARDING SCHOOLS

I wish to set forth in these few lines the advantages Indian children receive in Boarding Schools, without making any attempt to discredit the Day Schools, as both have the same ultimate end: the education and instruction of youth.

To deal fully with the question we must consider the physical as well as the spiritual advantages of the Boarding School. It is a well recognized fact that the larger institutions are better equipped to give the children a sound training that is both advantageous to the body and the mind.

The first consideration will bear on the health of the children in the Boarding Schools. A scrupulously clean building, well ventilated and heated, with the modern sanitation facilities is obviously of great advantage in the prevention of disease. Secondly, a balanced diet, comprising an abundant supply of fruit and vegetables together with fresh meat and eggs at all times, builds up the bodies in strength and beauty; add to this the sports which are organized both in summer and winter to the better interests of the children and we see the inmates of boarding schools, as a survey has revealed recently, increasing in weight at an average of 8 to 9 pounds in a period of six months. The third factor in maintaining a good health is medical attendance, which is at its best in the boarding school, where it is facilitated by the continual presence of a competent nurse, and close to a hospital; there also special treatment for trachoma, and special attention to tubercular cases can be given with ease. Some schools have a distinct unit called spreader-school where the tubercular children are isolated from the healthy pupils, and have, with the usual periods of class work, prolonged rest periods in large sunrooms.

Of advantage to the moral and spiritual training of the children in the Boarding Schools I will note the first of all the greater facilities for academic advancement, due to a more regular attendance, which bring the pupils to an average grade VI at the age of fifteen, with a good number completing grade VIII and a few more privileged ones reaching grade IX and X. Special training in arts, crafts and music can also take place in a well divided curriculum, together with the fundamental training in farming for the boys, and housekeeping for the girls. There is also a greater facility for vocational training, such as fur-farming and carpentry or blacksmithing.

The Residential School also provide the best opportunities for discipline in habits of regularity, accuracy and punctuality, which make the

children, in after-school life, better workers and puts them at a distinct advantage in securing positions among the white people, or even, in many cases, in Indian Schools and Hospitals. There are wider social contacts, nurtured in the Residential School, which originate in a broad and stimulating conception of family life inside the school. The matrons, supervisors and teachers, in taking the responsibility attached to their charge, realize fully that they have to give the children the same affection and devotion that the parents themselves have to give at home. The Residential Schools, being of co-educational nature, give a good opportunity to the older boys and girls to meet at supervised parties, where the natural shyness of youth is replaced by a better understanding of sociability and politeness.

Finally, the religious instruction and training in the Boarding Schools is marked with a practical aspect in the good example given by the teachers and supervisors, which good example is better for children than long sermons and dissertations.

It is hoped that the parents who have chosen in all liberty to send their children to Residential Schools will meditate on these few points, and co-operate with the directors of the schools in encouraging the children to be obedient and eager to acquire knowledge. We have known a great number of parents who do continually encourage their children to take the advantages offered to them in Residential Schools, and those parents are the ones who can be truly proud of their children.

G. L., O. M. I.

LEBRET, SASK.

Hockey.—In a return game, we, the Rags, went to Balcarres to play the Public School team in their big covered rink. We won the game by a score of 7 to 3. Because of the roads, we had to go by train. There were no fights in the game, although one of their boys played rough. We had a big lunch after the game. We had to work pretty hard for it. G. Tawiyaka, D. Dumont and P. Dubois each scored twice and G. Poitras once. The other players were: B. Adhemar, C. Adhemar, B. Sayer, M. Desnomie and K. Yuzicapi.

Kenny Yuzicapi.

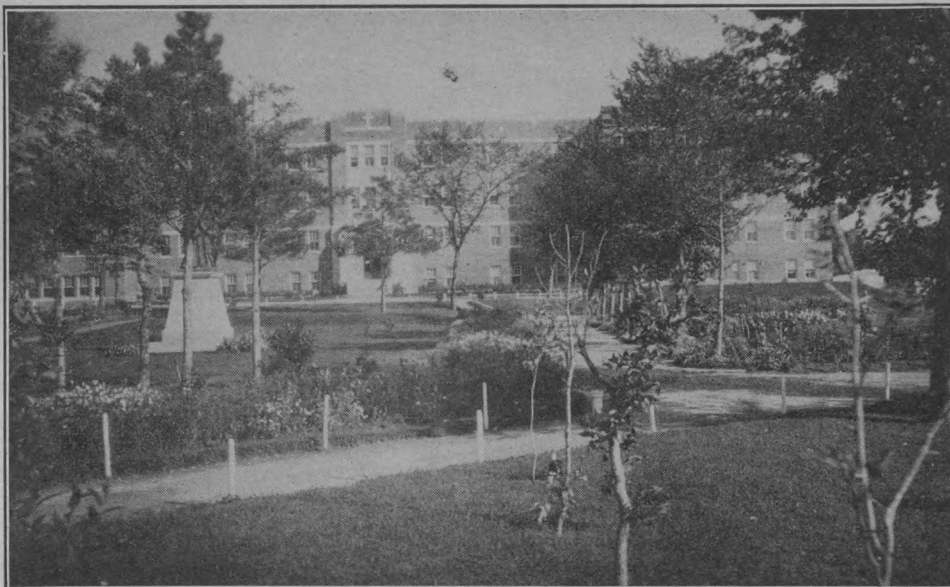
The senior boys went to Lipton and to Balcarres and lost two hard fought games by a one goal margin each time. At Lipton, handicapped by the size of the rink, we lost 7 to 6. To add to our loss, E. Pinay suffered a bad cut in the face and was lost to us for the remainder of the game. At Balcarres, a goal in the last half minute beat us. The score was 9 to 8.

Reserve News.

We were sorry to learn of the deaths of John Ashdowehunk and of Gordon Kennedy, both of Assiniboine Reserve. The Indian Missionary Record offers its most sincere sympathies to the families.

Births.—Piapot: A son to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Desjarlais. A son to Mr. and Mrs. John Anaquod. A son to Mr. and Mrs. George Obey.

The fathers from the Seminary are replacing Fr. Guy de Bretagne on his weekly trips to the reserves. Fr. Joyal has gone to Pasqua and Piapot and Fr. Dion went to File Hills with a group of Brothers.



Lebret Indian School

THE TRUE DIVINE RELIGION

II. The Roman Catholic Church.

We will progressively give instruction on the Divine Religion. The first thing we will speak of is that wonderful organization which is called the Catholic Church, the faith of which is followed by millions, the world over.

Her first claim is to be "Catholic", that is, Universal—for everyone. There is no preference of race or wealth. Anyone can belong to her. If there is preference in her love, it is for the poor and the humble. Nowadays, she groups in a vital unity four hundred million people.

Her end is purely spiritual: the Church has a splendid organization, owns buildings and institutions, works through an elaborate hierarchy for her administration, possesses a marvellous code of laws to lead its members. But the very end of all that visible organization deals with the morality of her members; if she owns, rules, teaches and organizes, it is but to sanctify, to make holy her members.

Another of her striking claims is her "Apostolicity". She claims to have been founded by Christ himself and her Bishops are the successors of Christ's Apostles. That is to say that the Church is twenty centuries old and by her inheritance from the Jewish religion is linked with the beginning of the world. Her Head, the Pope, can trace his mission, through his 225 predecessors, to St. Peter, the first Bishop of Rome, hence her name: "Roman".

Often the Church is accused of fanaticism in her claim to be the only true Church of Christ. Yet a more broadminded opinion on the subject cannot be found. Quietly and without passion, she will affirm her beautiful title before the 600 different denominations, which claim to be

"Christian" churches born of the Protestant Reformation. "God is with her till the end of the world," Luke, 1-32; Mt. XVI-18; Mt. XXVIII-20.

Many of her children went astray with the Gnostics, the Roman persecutions, the Barbarians, Mohammedanism, Arianism, Nestorianism and Protestantism. Each of these religious movements claimed millions of her members. Still, she remained unchanged and kept on growing in spite of those losses and persecutions. Humanly speaking, these persecutions by her own children should have led her to her own ruin. "One in her faith, one in her head, for Christ prayed for her," Jo. XVII, Gal. V-20, Eph. IV-3-6, Mt. XVI-18, Lk. 1-32, Jo. X-16, Rom. II-4-5, Jo. XV-5.

To leave her is like cutting a branch off a tree: it will wither and die. She can teach but cannot err; she can make holy in spite of her members' sins, for she has the authority. God only can speak about himself; God only can make us holy and purify us from sin and make us share the divine things. The Church can also do that because she has received the authority from God to do so. When you ask a permit to buy and sell, you secure that permit from the Indian Agent. Why from him and not anyone else? Because he has received authority for that purpose from the Government. A man, a human church cannot teach the things of God, administer the sacraments, sanctify the people and give rules from their own authority. The Catholic Church traces back her authority to Christ, with whom, according to Scripture, she is vitally united. Hence, her quiet claim to be the true Church Divine, not human; hence, her perpetuity through persecutions; hence her strictness to reject all error, to keep the deposit of the Revelation, as received from Christ.

Fr. Guy de Bretagne, O.M.I.



ST. PHILIPS, SASK.

School News.

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Rev. Fr. Paradis received, as Aspirants, in the Congregation of the Children of Mary: Elizabeth Badger, Mary C. Severite, Edna Musqua, Elizabeth Wapash, Lillian Cote, Gladys Quewezance and Pearl Stevenson. The feast, preceded by the usual novena, closed with the annual C. of M. supper and enjoyable evening during which Father kindly brought the radio and gramophone to the playroom. Before retiring we sang our beautiful hymn of thanksgiving to our Immaculate Mother.

Margaret Solomon, President.

The Nov.-Dec. number of the "Record" was greatly enjoyed as it contained letters from so many schools, all giving such good news and making us feel that we now know other Indian children far away. We enjoyed reading of Lebre's Christmas Program and we were pleased to see that long letter from Kenora.

Though it is already late, some may care to read of:

Christmas at St. Philips School.

As in all schools, we had those joyful weeks of preparation: singing practice, cleaning, baking, decorating and above all, the spiritual preparation for the coming of Little Jesus in our hearts. However, we are perhaps the only little Indians practising choruses in five languages, adding French and German to the usual Latin, English and Sautaux. Perhaps, too, our pleasure in the good Christmas baking differs, for we take special pleasure in making bread, sweet buns, cakes and dough-nuts, (to which are added later on, meat, tea, apples and candies) to make up a Christmas supper for each dear one at home, from grandpa down to baby. Christmas is a home day and we love to know they will enjoy our good things around the home table at the close of that happy day.

Christmas Eve, there remains but the final cleaning and decorating, that of our soul by confession. We rest in the afternoon and again in the evening until awakened by the joyful ringing of the church bell. This year as usual, the church was crowded and the Communions numerous. Owing to the absence of Fr. Bousquet, Fr. Paradis was alone. Although so tired after the two Masses, Father came to greet us in our playrooms where we assembled around our own little cribs. He then led us to the refectory where so many good things awaited us and where, as in the past years, the best place was prettily set for the Infant Jesus. Next, a good rest and breakfast, then off to the third Mass, after which we all visited the Crib.

At three o'clock, we presented a short program

for our parents, and Fr. Principal and Mr. Ost-rander, our Agent, spoke to them and to us. All this time we had our eyes on the beautifully adorned and toy-laden tree. Mr. and Mrs. Ost-rander distributed our gifts. Father had chosen so well that we each received something we liked very much. Then came the turn of our parents to whom were given the well filled bags mentioned above. We remained with our dear ones until five o'clock, when they left to enjoy at home their Christmas-present supper.

Our Yuletide holidays were happily spent in outdoor sports and indoor games, music and "parties". We are grateful for all the good things and good times given us by Fr. Principal and the Sisters.

The Seniors.

* * *

MARIEVAL, SASK.

MARIEVAL SCHOOL NEWS

With the coming of cold days, out door sports are enjoyed by the school children and even the grown-ups. It is a real pleasure to witness a hockey game going on. Recess time flies too quickly for those on the skating rinks. We boys have been let free more than once to practice in the afternoon, to develop our skill on the smooth ice. Some day we hope to beat the Grayson team. Last week we lost by a 5 to 3 score. One of us ventured to cry out: "We did it on purpose to bring them back again." Every Wednesday afternoon, the ex-pupils, most of them our big brothers, come to play a real game; it often lasts till supper time. The champions among the outsiders are A. Sparvier and E. Lavallee. For our School team, we have A. Kak in goal and a few other good ones.

Geo. Redwood and Geo. Agecoutay.

* * *

Midnight Mass was beautiful this year. The church was full; to give more place to the people, there were twelve altar boys in the Sanctuary. Some of us also heard mass at the school chapel. The biggest boys and girls went to the choir where they helped to sing all those Christmas hymns which always sound so good. They sang in Latin, English and Cree. All the faithful enjoyed their coming to church and no doubt felt the joy that gives a peaceful conscience.

Loraine Delorme.

* * *

Christmas eve was a very busy day. While the girls kept decorating here and there in the school, some boys were sent to get little trees to make cribs. We went to the bush and soon were chopping down the trees. It was very cold and we didn't linger on the way; we wanted to get back soon. Then, at night, we all went to bed to dream of little Jesus.

Robert Redwood.

On Christmas day we had a Christmas tree in the evening; the little concert was held in the basement of the church. We surely had fun; some of our toys were from the school and others were from home. We all went to the church after to adore Little Jesus and to assist at the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Then we went to the basement of the church to have lunch with our parents. We all received a bag of candies and other things. At seven o'clock the concert began. After the concert, our chief, Mr. Johnny Lavallee made a speech and made up another little programme. Some boys played the guitar and the violin while some girls sang songs for the people. We also had a square dance and some older people danced some good old time dances. At the end we all sang God Save the King and went home.

Marjorie Delorme.

* * *

Our Christmas holidays were much different this year than other years. The weather was so cold that we could hardly enjoy out-door games, so one afternoon, we had a Card-Party, and at another time, we had a Bingo Party. Prizes were given to the winners, besides apples and oranges for the lunch.

It would probably interest our readers to know that there are about 380 faithful to be found living on the four reservations attached to the school.

* * *

FORT ALEXANDER, MAN.

Noel! Noel!

A time of joy, a time of peace, a time of greetings, this is Christmas!

Silent night! A blue sky pierced by millions of lights, an atmosphere calm and quiet, such was the night of Christmas. It was cold around the solitary traveller, but his heart and soul were warm for there reigned love and peace. From every direction, people flocked to the well decorated church of Fort Alexander. The church was too small for all, and many worshipped with piety and devotion although they had to stand. If I say that our Midnight Mass was beautiful, I say very little. Altar boys attended the priest as well as trained seminarians. And the singing! Did the Angels sing better over the crib of Bethlehem? The Mass of St. Basil, the Hymns, all were beautiful and made us think of heavenly joys. That night Jesus made his abode in many hearts, bringing peace and joy to all for the communions were very numerous.

On Christmas day, at the school, the happy parents with their beloved children shared a delicious meal at the same table. In the afternoon, all gathered in the hall for a beautiful concert. Plays, drills, songs, recitations, perfect in their execution, revealed many talents among our children. Even the little ones interested the spectators in a song entitled "The Train Song." But during the concert, many bright eyes were constantly gazing at the Christmas tree. From every branch hung a toy. After the concert Fr. Brachet distributed the presents: a stocking of candies and a present for every one. Many thanks to Fr. Principal. At half past seven, we went to Benediction to close this beautiful Christmas day.

A Happy New Year.

Words with overflowing meaning. The children of the school extend to their parents and friends the full meaning of these words. May the

new year be holy, happy and prosperous in all things. We had a good New Year's day at Fort Alexander. At noon, another family dinner was given to the parents. At two o'clock, all present gathered in the hall to assist at another concert. The number rendered were as follows: 1. A New Year is Beginning, song; 2. First Aid Lesson; 3. Ribbon Drill; 4. Class by Beginners; 5. Spoon Drill; 6. Examination Day; 7. Little Roosters. All agreed to have passed a most pleasant afternoon. On Christmas Day, Santa Claus was so loaded with gifts that he had left at home a bundle of hockey sticks, but had promised to be back on New Year's day. After the concert, Fr. Principal gave a new stick to all the boys who could skate.

On the day of Epiphany, following an old custom, we crowned a King and a Queen. For finding the pea and the bean that were hidden in the cake, Fr. Lemire and Sr. Superior were King and Queen for a day.

At half past seven, we all gathered in the chapel to pray the Divine Infant to help us and those we love during this year.

The pupils of the school may say that they not only passed good holidays but also Holy Days.

News from Scanterbury.

Father Lemire went to Scanterbury to sing the Midnight Mass. The people of the reserve had made a basket social and had made enough money to buy some beautiful decorations. But the most beautiful were those the ladies made themselves. The church looked very pretty that night.

* * *

ROSEAU, MAN.

ROSEAU RESERVE NEWS

The Roseau Braves defeated the Dominion City Hockey team by a score of 4 to 1, before a large crowd at Letellier. The Braves scored twice in the first period and twice in the second, while the Dominions got their lone goal late in the third period. Albert Henry netted two goals for Roseau while Pete Smith and Ed Sennie got the other two.

The Pee-Wees from the Reserve lost the first game of the season when the Letellier Pee-Wees nosed them out by a score of 4 to 3. They are anxious for their next game as they will be out for revenge.

The Roseau Braves payed a visit to Rosenfeld last week. The game was fast and clean throughout, only one penalty being handed out. Tait French got the Braves' lone goal, while Rosenfeld Hawks scored twice to nose them out.

In a return game at Dominion City, the Braves gave another fine display of hockey skill, when they defeated the Dominions by a 2 to 0 score. Stephen Sennie deserved the shutout, while his mates worked hard for the two goals which meant victory to them. —Samuel Hayden.

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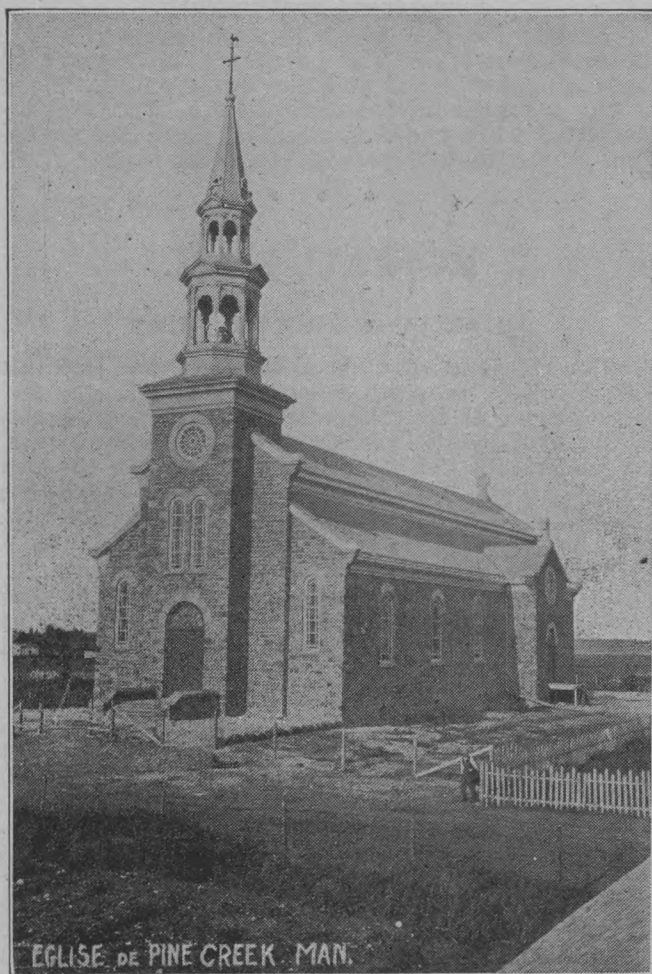


CAMPERVILLE, MAN

CHRISTMAS AT CAMPERVILLE, MAN.

Somewhere in the North, on the shores of a large lake, in a little town called Camperville, stands a temple, great in size, strong in its structure and beautiful in its interior decorations. This temple is unique in the whole North. From Dauphin to the barren lands of Churchill, none like it is to be found. Even the Cathedral of Le Pas is inferior in beauty to the church of Pine Creek.

Twenty miles around this beautiful church, some fifteen hundred fishermen are toiling day and night. Every day they will set and visit their nets. These men are stern looking fellows, hardened against the rigor of the northern climate. Strange to say, not only strong grown-up men are seen laboring on the lake, as one often sees young women doing the chores of the fisherman to earn a livelihood. In a tent on the lake, they stoop over a hole in the ice holding a hook, which they hope will catch that fish which means their daily bread. Tis is the life of the fisherman.



Camperville Church

But Christmas day is here! The bells of Camperville are ringing in the night, bringing the joyous message of the birth of Christ to the people. For three days, all work will stop. Over every trail leading to the mission of Pine Creek, one sees hundreds of men with their families, walking as shadows in the night toward the church. At night the church looks like an ocean liner at sea. Lights shine through its many windows, and

its high steeple looks like the smoke stack of the Normandie.

Angel voices in the church are singing "Silent Night." Still crowds are pouring into the temple. Every corner is filled. From the altar steps the crowd looks like an ocean of human beings. The celebrant is performing the ceremonies of the Mass, while the altar boys in red and white cassocks flutter around him; the congregation follows with rapt attention all the ceremonies. Comes the reading of the Gospel. The missionary priest, a man of sixty, goes to the pulpit. All eyes are turned on him. He reads the message of the Angel to the Shepherds of Bethlehem. This message, after nineteen hundred years, is still new. It wakes in the hearts of the fishermen of Camperville the same sentiments of joy and gladness as the first time it was spoken to the shepherds. The large congregation of Camperville would not lose one word of it. To let every member in the church understand its full meaning, the missionary speaks first in Sauteux, then in English and in French. Then the mass continues with all its pomp and splendor. Nowhere in the West is the Midnight Mass of Christmas celebrated with more splendor and devotion than in Pine Creek.

What a sight when the moment of Communion arrives. The throng slowly moves through the aisles to the holy rails, where for half an hour two priests distribute Holy Communion.

How contented and peaceful the faces of these fishermen now appear. They are the men of good will and peace will abide with them. Religion not only gives strength and consolation to every soul, but Holy Communion seems to do more to these hardy men: their bodies seem to acquire new vigor.

In a few days they will resume their rude labor on the lake. They will again face the bitter cold wind of the north, but this time they will take up their task with new courage and without murmur. Where others rebel, they work out their

own salvation.

M. Kalmes, O.M.I.

A LETTER

Little Flower School,
St. Michael, N.D., Jan. 19, 1939.

Dear Rev. Father:—

I was so glad, when Sister read to us that little note, to hear that we could write to you and have our letters printed in the paper. We love so well the Indian Missionary Record, that right away I asked to write to you, first to thank you for your good wishes and then to tell our Indian friends of Canada that we are very glad to have an opportunity of getting acquainted with them. We had a very nice Christmas vacation, we had concerts and parties. We played the Lost Star, the Three Wishes, the Christ Child. Fr. Damian, O.S.B., spent a few days with us. We have a wonderful toboggan slide; some boys go down the slide on skis, and the little girls and smaller boys use the toboggans. Sister Berka, our Matron, took us to the Big Hill. I like it in school and hope that all the Canadian Indians like it as well.

Your American Sioux Indian friend,

Alfred Alex, 10, Gr. 4.

MUSCOWEQUAN

The Muscowequan Hockey club wishes to express its deep appreciation to Rev. Geo. Jeanotte, O.M.I., Principal of Muscowequan Indian School, for the support given in organizing this hockey team. We wish to thank him for all the good work he has done for us. Our hockey team is one of the best in the district, having easily won the five games it played.

As we have no ice of our own, Fr. Principal lends us the school rink where we play all our home games which the children enjoy to watch. Fr. Poulin is so busy in his missions that we never see him. We surely miss him in practices.

We also take this opportunity to thank our manager, Lucien Bruce, for the support he gave us to get the team together. The players are: J. Mathew, P. Manitopyes, H. Edwards, I. Kosh sheep, L. Akan, M. Manitopyes, Fr. Bruce, D. No-field, Jerry and Ben.

The Scores: Poorman 9 at Muscowequan 15. Lestock 5 at Muscowequan 7; Muscowequan 7 at Kelliher 5; Muscowequan 18 at Leross 2; Muscowequan 12 at Touchwood 2.

* * *

LESTOCK, SASK.

Muscowequan Indian Residential School.

Here we are with our school news:

Last Christmas, although it was severely cold and stormy, our chapel was filled with people from the surrounding reserves. The ceremonies, the singing and decorations were exceptionally beautiful. The pious attitude of the faithful who came to the Holy Communion in greater number than usual, was edifying.

Dec. 25th.—A concert was given to our parents. The program was pleasing and well given, providing a good evening's entertainment for all.

Dec. 26th.—Banquet for our parents. There was a hockey game immediately after, then the Christmas tree. Santa was liberal, he left much for all.

Dec. 29th.—The concert was repeated. The Fathers, the Sisters of St. Joseph's Hospital and a number of Lestock citizens attended. The program consisted of Xmas plays and songs, recitations and drills. All seemed well impressed by the performance of the actors.

Dec. 31st.—Benediction at the closing of 1938, after which Rev. Fr. Principal offered his wishes to the staff and children.

Jan. 2nd.—Opening of the Forty Hours' Adoration.

Jan. 6th.—Hockey game and sleigh ride to Lestock. Visit to the parish priest and to the hospital. We enjoyed the trip very much.

Jan. 17th.—Mr. Waddy, our Indian Agent from Punnichy, visited our school. He went to each class and had a good word for each one. He remained here for dinner, and granted an extension for a good hockey game. Then we resumed our work.

Jan. 20th.—Mr. Lalonde, our Farmer Instructor, was fishing, not fish but ice, cut by Joe Lapierre for the school, which had sunk into the lake through weight.

Jan. 2st.—Rev. Fr. Poulin leaves for Marieval and his other missions. He makes a short stop at Le Bret School and at the Scholasticate. We are pleased to welcome him again this evening,

Feb. 2nd.

Jan. 25th.—At the occasion of the 123rd Anniversary of the Oblate Fathers' Congregation, we were given another picture show, which we enjoyed very much.

We have just been informed of the death of one of our ex-pupils, Gordon Kennedy, who passed away lately at Indian Head. Our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family, on Assiniboine Reserve.

Our ex-pupils often join in to play with the school and staff. They deserve congratulations for having done so well in all their hockey games since the beginning of the season. They have defeated Kelliher with a score of 7-5; Touchwood, 12-2; Lestock, 8-6; Leross, 18-2.

Hilliard Worm, Gr. VII.

* * *

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 15 members were enrolled in the Society of the Children of Mary. Others are preparing to be received. Immediately after the ceremony, Benediction was given, and the rest of the day was spent in pleasant amusement.

We celebrated the Silver Jubilee of one of our sisters on the feast of the Presentation. Rev. Fr. Joyal, from the Scholasticate, gave us a nice sermon on the occasion. The day was ended by a concert given by the children.

Brother Adolphe Gauthier who had just come from the hospital of Regina after a short but serious illness, was also our guest. M. L.

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SANDY BAY

My Favorite Book.—I am ten years old and was promoted to grade five last September. My favorite work is the Bible History. We are given a weekly test taken from the chapter learned. To encourage us, Sr. Superior sent our marks to the Mother General of the Sisters of St. Joseph. I was one of the lucky ones. Each was given a very beautiful prize for which we are very thankful. Elsie Roulette.

Newly Painted Church.—A few men, under the direction of Fr. Comeau, have painted the church. All the work was finished for Christmas which was a great day at Sandy Bay.

We had in our midst, Fr. de Moissac of St. Boniface. He celebrated Mass at the church. Fr. Principal celebrated Mass in the school chapel. The ceremonies were made very impressive by the way all the Indians received Holy Communion.

Fr. Comeau went to Ebb and Flow for Midnight Mass. He returned to the school on Christmas afternoon. To finish the day, he gave us a picture show which we enjoyed very much.

Henriette Beaulieu, Gr. 5.

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Club Meeting.—Every first Friday of the month is the day appointed for our meeting as Leaguers of the Sacred Heart. I guess you would be amazed to see how well we amuse ourselves. We play games, tricks and sing hymns and songs. Lunch is served to the strains of music. We sometimes recite dialogues or relate stories. Last meeting we imitated a person well known as the "Lady of the North". This was great excitement. We are preparing funny games for the next meeting. Ida Paul, Gr. 5.

Our Skating Rink.—We started to fix our skating rink on December 16th. There was no snow before that date. Meanwhile we were skating at the bay. We are glad to enjoy our rink now for we have our own hockey team. It is not less pleasant for the smaller boys to sled down the slopes. They are always full of pep when they have their sleighs. —Leonard Mousseau, Gr. 4.

Indoor games take up most of our time during the night recreations. The boys working at the barn every week are allowed to use the pool table. We also have the advantage of having the radio close at hand. As a reward, every Saturday night, while the youngsters are fast asleep, we listen to the hockey broadcast. This interests us very much. James McKay, Gr. 3.

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Improvements.—A new air heating system has been installed in the church. The big furnace which was taking so much space has been moved to the cellar. It gives heat by means of pipes. This is a great improvement and did not cost much.

The Department has granted us an electric plant which was received on January 9th. Bro. Eugene Gauthier is installing it now.

Christina Manijens, Gr. 5.

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We are all glad to go to our class rooms which were repainted last fall. The desks are all stain varnished. There are many nice pictures hung around the room. The bird casing contains a large number of beautiful birds which are a very attractive sight to our visitors.

Jane Malcolm, Gr. 4.

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Lizard Point News.—John Cook, a veteran of the Reserve, was appointed guardian of the new church. His work consists in providing wood for the church, presiding at the prayer in the absence of the priest. He is doing his work with zeal, though advanced in age.

Our Catholics are proud of their new bell. It arrived last November from Quebec. It is made of brass and weighs 300 pounds. It can be heard from all corners of the Reserve.

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KENORA, ONTARIO

Happy Returns.

Though all hearts were given to sacrifice and serious preparation for the great feast of Christmas, mirth and music filled the air. Yes, Christmas was near. In such a merry time, nothing seems hard and the daily task lightens with hope and gladness.

The noise of brooms, mops and brushes rhymed to the laughs and joyous calls echoed from every room to bring good cheer and every corner of the house is thus visited in a short time. When all was nice and shiny, the decorations appeared. The holly of unselfishness, the mistletoe of love suspended by the generous hand of Christmas, wreathed all faces with a smile of good fellowship. Every pleasant odor coming from the kitchen betrayed the pastries, doughnuts and delicious cakes as well as the seasoned stew to relish and stimulate the appetite and foretell of the joys to come.

Yes, Christmas was in the air and Santa Claus, with his packs and toys was not far, for the old pine tree had already made its way through the mystic room. Girls rehearsed for the concert; the boys thought of being very silent with their dumb bells, forgetting that if the bells

were dumb, we were not deaf, and we could hear the rumbling of their dumb bells. In a room flower arches swayed to the step of the girls drilled for the occasion. Happy voices sing "Tis Merry, Merry Christmas Time."

The last exercises gave way to the concert which took place on the 22nd of December. A few distinguished visitors honored us by their presence. Captain Edwards, our Indian Agent, was very interesting and the good note he gave us for the loud and distinct speech rejoiced us. The "Short and Sweet Programme" ended by the gathering at the Christmas tree, where old Santa was taken by surprise, but quickly moved from his seat to hand over gifts and stockings. All hearts overflowed with joy.

Two days later, the musical chimes announced Midnight Mass. How great a Feast for the Christian heart. The first hymn struck the keynote which resounded in celestial harmonies for the night. Hearts and voices joined in sweet refrains to praise the God Child. Piety and respect inspired the congregation during three consecutive masses. The traditional lunch was served to the Indians of the reserve after mass.

The holidays were spent in the school this year. Only half a day was given to the children so as to give them a chance to see their parents. The boys are proud to say that they enjoy their hockey games over which Fr. Principal presides when we have no visitor to do so. Fr. Dumouche gives us nice picture shows and is also the new leader of the boys' choir.

The most striking events of the new school year were the elections made by the members of the Society of Mary and the League of the Sacred Heart. These ceremonies meant very much and those elected are taking the important offices conscientiously.

On his way to Fort Francis, Fr. Chatelain favored us with a short visit. He has gone to that school as Principal.

Another visit which pleased us was that of Sr. St. Michael, an Oblate Sister from McIntosh. She had dinner with us before returning to the hospital where she left three Indian children.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lafèche of White Fish Bay also paid us a visit. They were going to spend the Christmas holidays with their relatives in Winnipeg.

As he returned from McIntosh, Fr. Dumouche was surprised to see his mother. We rejoiced with him at such a surprise. Mrs. Dumouchel also spent a few days with her daughter who is teaching at Mount Carmel School. That must have been a nice trip for her.

